



Avian (H5N1) & Pandemic Influenza Update:

May 8, 2006

Summary:

In the past 11 days, 1 human case of influenza due to H5N1 has been identified in China (1 death), and 1 in Indonesia (1 death). Thus far in 2006, the number of cases of human disease is more than 50% of the total for 2005. There is still no evidence that avian influenza can be transmitted effectively from person to person.

Current World Health Organization (WHO) Phase of Pandemic Alert:
Pandemic Alert Phase 3 (No or very limited human-to-human transmission)

Human illness due to influenza A (H5N1):

As of May 8, 2006, the WHO had reported cumulative totals of 207 human cases and 115 deaths in 9 countries. During 2006, 66 cases and 39 deaths have been confirmed in Azerbaijan, Cambodia, China, Egypt, Indonesia, Iraq, and Turkey.

Avian illness due to influenza A (H5N1):

Since January 1, 40 countries have identified and reported domestic or wild birds with H5N1 influenza. These countries are in the Far East, Eurasia, Europe, and Africa, and can be seen in a map at the following link:

www.who.int.

Utah Prepares:

Information on how to prepare, and what others are doing, is available at www.pandemicflu.utah.gov

Advice to Travelers (WHO):

WHO and CDC do not recommend restrictions on travel to areas affected by H5N1 avian influenza or screening of travelers coming from H5N1 affected areas. Specific advice for travelers can be found at: www.cdc.gov/travel/other/avian_influenza_se_asia_2005.htm

Interim Guidance for Airline Flight Crews and Persons Meeting Passengers Arriving from Areas with Avian Influenza; also Aircraft Cleaning Guidelines:

Find infection control and management guidelines at www.cdc.gov/travel/other/avian_flu_ig_airlines_021804.htm
www.cdc.gov/travel/other/avian_flu_airlines_cleaning_update_120505.htm

Additional Sources of Information:

U.S. Government: www.pandemicflu.gov/

World Health Organization: www.who.int/csr/disease/avian_influenza/en/

World Organization for Animal Health: www.oie.int/eng/en_index.htm

To receive these updates weekly, please send an email to lyris@list.state.ut.us and type subscribe pandemic in the message area.

Overview of WHO Pandemic Phases:

I. Inter-Pandemic Period

Phase 1: No new influenza subtypes detected in humans. Human risk from known viruses circulating in animals believed to be low.

Phase 2: A circulating animal virus poses substantial risk of human disease.

II. Pandemic alert period

Phase 3: Human infection(s) with new subtype, but no human-to-human spread, or at most rare instances of spread to a close contact.

Phase 4: Small cluster with limited human-to-human spread but spread is highly localized suggesting the virus is not well adapted to humans.

Phase 5: Larger cluster(s) but human-to-human spread still localized.

III. Pandemic period

Phase 6: Increased and sustained transmission in general population.